

1 - Podhoretz, Norman
1 - Farfield Foundation
CIA 2-04.2 general

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MAR 11 1967

Magazine did not get CIA funds

From Norman Podhoretz, editor, Commentary Magazine, 165 E. 56, New York City.

In your issue of Feb. 20 you stated that the Farfield Foundation (which has been named as a conduit for C.I.A. funds) in 1965 made "payments of \$143,150 to the Congress [for Cultural Freedom], to P.E.N. (a society of writers) and to Norman Podhoretz, the editor of Commentary Magazine."

You thus conveyed the impression that I or perhaps the magazine I edit has been the recipient of huge sums of money which came indirectly from the C.I.A. This is a gross and damaging falsehood. Of the \$143,150 figure you mentioned, I personally received exactly \$250 to cover my expenses as a delegate to the International P.E.N. Congress in Yugoslavia. Neither then nor at any other time has Commentary Magazine received funds from the Farfield Foundation or from the C.I.A.

You further stated that in 1964 Farfield paid \$10,392 for "study and travel fellowships to Mr. and Mrs. Norman Podhoretz" and for support of the American Society for African Culture. The Farfield tax report for

1964 lists eight names as the recipients of a total of \$10,392 for such fellowships. By singling my name out from that list, you once again conveyed the false and damaging impression that I have received huge sums of money indirectly from the C.I.A.

The true facts are that my wife and I, in our capacity as writers, went on a six-day trip to Mexico to meet informally with Mexican writers and intellectuals. We received two economy airfare tickets worth a total of \$512 and an additional \$320 to cover living expenses. No conditions were attached by Farfield either to this grant or to the \$250 grant for the trip to Yugoslavia. Nor did I make any report to the foundation or to anyone else at the conclusion of either of these trips.

Letters to the Editor

A Reply

In your issue of Feb. 19 you stated that the Farfield Foundation (which has been named as a conduit for CIA funds) in 1965 made "payments of \$143,150 to the Congress (for Cultural Freedom), to P.E.N. (a society of writers) and to Norman Podhoretz, the editor of *Commentary* magazine." You thus conveyed the impression that I or perhaps the magazine I edit has been the recipient of huge sums of money which came indirectly from the CIA.

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As a responsible newspaper, *The Washington Post* has the duty to repair the damage it has done me and the magazine I edit by a frank disavowal of the erroneous implications of its Feb. 19 story.

NORMAN PODHORETZ.

New York

Wm. Harwood, Richard

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Denial Sought

Ramparts Charges CIA Intimidation

By Richard Harwood
Washington Post Staff Writer

Ramparts magazine made public yesterday its version of the financial marriage and divorce of the National Student Association and Covert Action Division No. 5 of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Before the relationship was disclosed this year, Ramparts said, CIA had poured millions into the college student organization and NSA officials had gone to such Government figures as Vice President Hubert Humphrey in a vain effort to end their financial dependence on the intelligence agency.

Moreover, the magazine said, the CIA "viciously turned on" former NSA president Philip Sherburne "to intimidate him into publicly denying" that the relationship had ever existed.

The story is told in advance proofs of an article that is to appear in Ramparts next month. The major revelations in the article have already been confirmed substantially by the State Department.

The story began in the 1950s when the U.S. Government became alarmed at the Communist take-over of international student groups in Europe. In response to this problem, NSA set up a new International Student Conference in 1950 in cooperation with 18 other national student organizations. The new organization flourished, and "kept to a rigid

"Cold War line" under NSA leaders "who seemed more like professional diplomats than students."

Only a tiny handful of NSA's officers, Ramparts said, were aware that the organization was tied into the CIA, derived from the agency important financial support for its international activities, and was treated, in turn, by CIA as "an arm of U.S. foreign policy."

The money and the policy direction, Ramparts said, came from Covert Action Division No. 5 of the CIA's Plans Division, whose personnel included former NSA officers.

The magazine said the money was channeled to NSA through an intricate maze of "foundations," some of which may be nothing more than dummy conduits for CIA funds. They included the Borden Trust of Philadelphia, the Price Fund of New York, the Beacon Fund of Boston, the Kentfield Fund of Dallas, the Edsel Fund of San Francisco, the San Jacinto Fund of Houston, the Tower Fund and the Appalachian Fund, for

which no addresses have been given.

Through these conduits, Ramparts claimed, CIA money was passed to various private foundations and organizations such as the Foundation for Youth and Student Affairs, the J. Frederick Brown and Independence Foundations of Boston, the Sidney and Esther Rabb Charitable Foundation of Boston, and the Fairfield Foundation.

These foundations, in turn, said Ramparts, passed on money to NSA and such other groups as Independent Research Service, the International Student Conference, Policy Research, Inc., the American Society for African Culture, and the International Development Foundation.

In the case of NSA, Ramparts said the CIA funds were used solely for its international activities and to permit NSA delegates and officers to travel abroad and take part in international student meetings.

For NSA officials, the magazine said, "it meant lots of money, a sense of doing im-

portant work, overseas travel and, perhaps, most important of all, very little feeling of having sold out one's political convictions . . . The CIA relationship meant something more personal, too. For years elected (and appointed) officials and staffers of NSA have been getting draft deferments . . . for having an "occupation vital to the national interest."

The few NSA officers aware of the relationship, according to Ramparts, were required to take the secrecy oath prescribed in the National Security Act. But the story broke as a result of a conversation that occurred in March, 1966 between Phil Sherburne, the NSA president at that time, and Michael Wood, NSA's director of development.

Sherburne told Wood the whole story and subsequently took steps to end the relationship with CIA.

Ramparts said Sherburne demanded that NSA make its own policy decisions, independent of CIA, and went to Vice President Humphrey for help. Ramparts says he told Humphrey of the CIA connection and asked the Vice President to help NSA become financially independent. Humphrey, according to the magazine, tried to raise money for NSA from Roger Blough of U. S. Steel, Henry Ford, and David Rockefeller of the Chase Manhattan bank but "only a few hundred dollars came in."

The issue was finally forced, Ramparts said, by Wood who told the story to the magazine and who writes in the magazine that he has "betrayed" Sherburne's "personal trust" because of "my public trust as a citizen of the United States."

Org. 1 San Jacinto Fund of Houston

Org. 1 Tower Fund

Org. 1 Appalachian Fund

Org. 1 Found. for Youth & Student Affairs

Org. 1 J. Frederick Brown Found. of Boston

Org. 1 Independence Found. of Boston

Org. 1 Sidney & Esther

Rabb Charitable Found. of Boston

Org. 1 Fairfield Found.

Org. 1 Independent Research Service

Org. 1 Intl. Student Conference Policy Research Inc.

Org. 1 Am. Society for African Culture

Org. 1 Intl. Development Found.

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Org. 1 Natl. Student Assn

Pres. Sherburne, Philip

Org. 1 Borden Trust of Phila.

Org. 1 Price Fund of New York

Org. 1 Beacon Fund of Boston

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